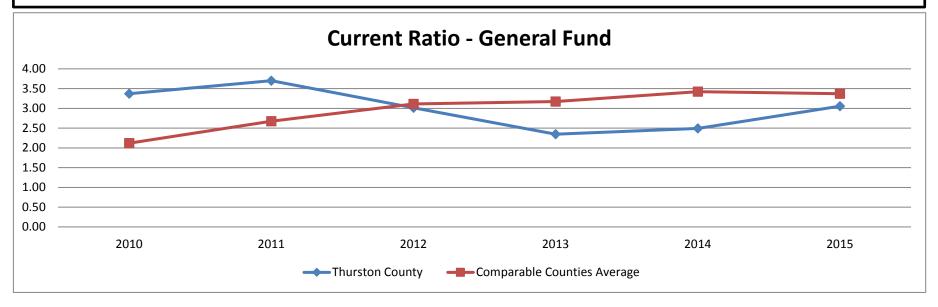
#### **Current Ratio - General Fund**

#### Are General Fund expenses able to be paid as they come due?

<u>Description</u>: This measure is designed to focus on the liquidity position of the County's General Fund that has arisen from past transactions. It shows how many times the current General Fund assets cover current General Fund liabilities. It assesses the County's ability to pay for its most immediate obligations and focuses on working capital. Current assets include cash and other assets that should be converted to cash or used within a year. Current liabilities include those obligations that are due within a year and will require the use of current assets or establishment of additional current liabilities.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A ratio greater than 1.0 is preferred. If this amount is above 1.0, it implies the County will be able to pay General Fund expenses as they come due. If this amount is less than 1.0, it implies that County has more immediate obligations than assets available to make payments and will need to either borrow or receive excess revenue in the short term.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County General Fund's Current Ratio was 3.05, representing an increase of about 30% from 2013. Even though it is still below 2011's recent year high-water mark of 3.70, a negative two-year trend has been reversed. Given that the comparable counties ratio decreased in 2015 vs. 2014, the reversal of the Thurston County's downtrend is a welcome sight. The next couple years will be interesting to see if the downward trend has actually reversed.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Current Assets (Total Assets)	\$ 21,420,909	\$ 25,284,616	\$ 24,770,737	\$ 18,870,971	\$ 19,705,747	\$ 22,429,096
Current Liabilities (Total Liabilities)	\$ 6,354,635	\$ 6,832,695	\$ 8,220,791	\$ 8,042,975	\$ 7,900,503	\$ 7,342,930
Thurston County	3.37	3.70	3.01	2.35	2.49	3.05
Comparable Counties Average	2.12	2.67	3.11	3.17	3.42	3.37

Formula: Current Assets / Current Liabilities

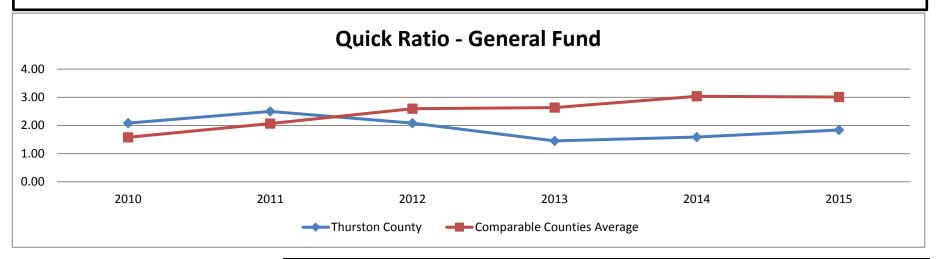
#### **Quick Ratio - General Fund**

#### Are General Fund expenses able to be paid as they come due with "quick" assets, rather than current assets?

<u>Description</u>: Like the Current Ratio just described, this measure shows how many times the current General Fund liabilities and it assesses the County's ability to pay for its most immediate obligations. However, this is a more conservative approach to measuring liquidity as it uses quick assets, or assets that are normally convertible into cash within a relatively short period, such as Cash and Pooled Investments, Due From Other Funds, and Due From Other Governments. Unlike current assets, quick assets exclude receivables related to taxes and court fines because of the nature of these receivables at the County, they are not normally converted to cash in a relatively short period of time. As with the Current Ratio, the current liabilities include those obligations that are due within a year and will require the use of current assets or establishment of additional current liabilities.

<u>Benchmark</u>: If this amount is above 1.0, it implies the County will be able to pay Gen Fund expenses with highly liquid assets as they come due. If this amount is less than 1.0, it implies that County has more immediate obligations than highly liquid assets available to make payments and will need to either borrow or receive excess revenue in the short term. The Quick Ratio will always give a lower value than the Current Ratio.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County General Fund Quick Ratio was 1.84 representing an increase of about 27% from 2013. Much like the Current Ratio just described, this number is still below the 2011 high-water mark. However, there is a two year increasing trend which looks positive. The comparable counties ratio decreased slightly from 2014 just as the current ratio but is still above Thurston County due to the over \$20 million in cash that Kitsap County has.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Cash and Pooled Investments	\$ 11,326,879	\$ 13,595,743	\$ 14,545,218	\$ 8,090,349	\$ 9,627,447	\$ 11,016,757
Due From Other Funds & Governments	\$ 1,917,957	\$ 3,466,189	\$ 2,573,578	\$ 3,579,860	\$ 2,906,178	\$ 2,487,880
Current Liabilities	\$ 6,354,635	\$ 6,832,695	\$ 8,220,791	\$ 8,042,975	\$ 7,900,503	\$ 7,342,930
Thurston County	2.08	2.50	2.08	1.45	1.59	1.84
Comparable Counties Average	1.58	2.07	2.59	2.63	3.04	3.01

Formula: (Cash + Due From Other Funds + Due From Other Governments) / Current Liabilities

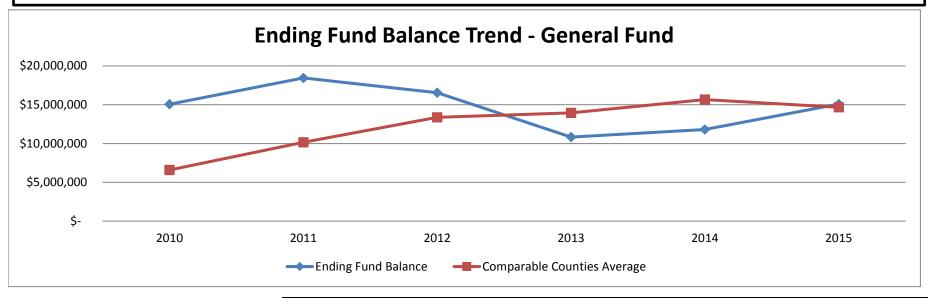
### **Ending Fund Balance Trend - General Fund**

#### What is the trend of the General Fund's Ending Fund Balance?

<u>Description</u>: This measure plots the trend of the annual ending fund balance in the General Fund. It also calculates a percentage change year over year (not plotted). This is a very important measure as fund balance represents the net worth of the General Fund. Having an adequate fund balance helps reduce the risk to the fund due to revenue shortfalls and unexpected expenditure increases. Note that the figure for the county has an amount for Court Fines and Forfeitures Receivable factored in.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A positive trend indicates that the county's General Fund ended the year in better fiscal condition than it did in the prior year and a negative trend indicates that the fund ended the year in worse condition. The dollar figure each year taken alone will not necessarily indicate good or bad financial health of the fund. It must be viewed in terms of the trend of the measure. GFOA recommends a fund balance of at least two months budgeted annual expenditures, which at present level of spending is approximately \$13.5 million. Current county policy says one month of budgeted annual expenditures which is approximately \$7.5 million.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the ending fund balance in the county's general fund increased by 39% compared to 2013. Again, like the Current and Quick ratios above, the 2015 amount is still below the 2011 high-water mark, but a two year positive trend has happened. As with both the Current and Quick Ratios above, this graph is very similar showing a steady increase each year in the comparable counties and a reversal of a two-year negative trend at Thurston County. Thurston County is new above the comparable counties for the first time since 2012.



		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 1	.5,066,274	\$ 18,451,651	\$ 16,549,946	\$ 10,827,996	\$ 11,805,244	\$ 15,086,166
Thurston County % change		75.90%	22.47%	-10.31%	-34.57%	9.03%	27.79%
Comparable Counties Average	\$	6,587,563	\$ 10,155,976	\$ 13,382,850	\$ 13,942,040	\$ 15,662,235	\$ 14,673,822

Formula: (Ending Fund Balance Current Year - Ending Fund Balance Prior Year) / Ending Fund Balance Prior year

*The 2009 amt:* \$ 8,565,102

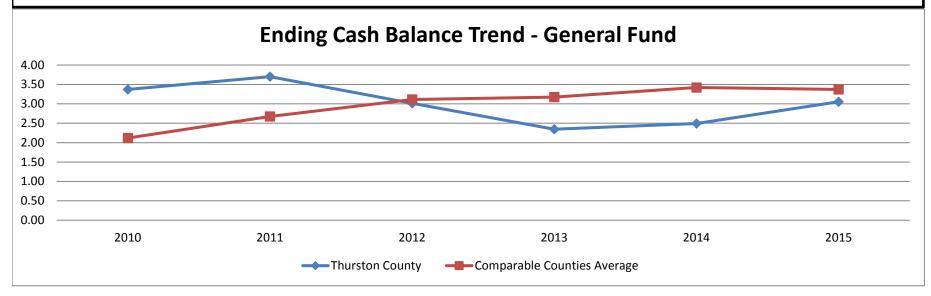
# **Ending Cash Balance Trend - General Fund**

What is the trend of the General Fund's Ending Fund Balance?

<u>Description</u>: This measure plots the trend of the annual ending cash balance in the General Fund. It also calculates a percentage change year over year (not plotted). This is a very important measure as cash balance represents the county's ability to pay the immediate obligations of the General Fund. Note that in most situations, because of the nature of the modified accrual basis of accounting, this trend line should (somewhat) closely mirror the ending fund balance trend line above. The difference is any recorded short term receivables and payables. Also note that because of the nature of counties, this cash balance will fluctuate widely during the year depending on the timing of property tax receipts.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A positive trend indicates that the county's General Fund ended the year in better cash condition than it did in the prior year and a negative trend indicates that the fund ended the year in worse condition.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the ending cash balance in the county's general fund increased by 36% compared to 2013. Again, like the Current and Quick ratios above, the 2015 amount is still below the 2011 high-water mark, and there is a new two year positive trend. As with both the Current and Quick Ratios above, this graph is very similar showing a steady increase each year in the comparable counties vs the reversal of a two-year negative trend at Thurston County. The next couple years will be interesting to see if the trend reversal continues. Thurston County appears to be accumulating cash at a greater rate than the comparable counties in the past couple years.



	2	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ending Cash Balance	\$ 11	1,326,879	\$ 13,595,743	\$ 14,545,218	\$ 8,090,349	\$ 9,627,447	\$ 11,016,757
Thurston County % change		2.39%	20.03%	6.98%	-44.38%	19.00%	14.43%
Comparable Counties Average % change	\$ 6	6,557,550	\$ 10,249,698	\$ 13,266,684	\$ 13,973,661	\$ 17,239,605	\$ 16,538,181

Formula: (Ending Cash Balance Current Year - Ending Cash Balance Prior Year) / Ending Cash Balance Prior year

*The 2008 amt:* \$ 11,062,622

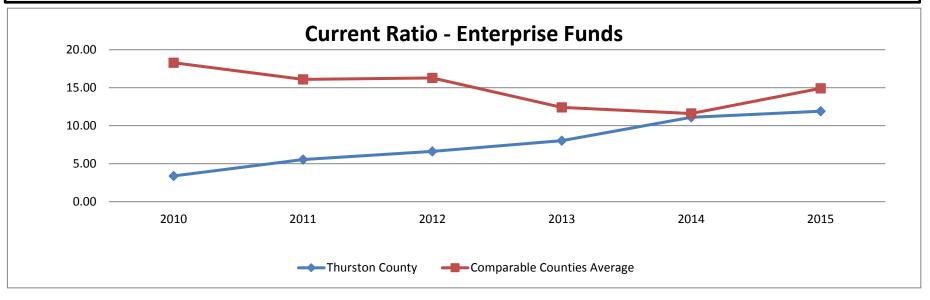
### **Current Ratio - Enterprise Funds**

#### Are General Fund expenses able to be paid as they come due?

<u>Description</u>: This measure is designed to focus on the liquidity position of the County's Enterprise Funds that has arisen from past transactions. It shows how many times the current Enterprise Fund assets cover current liabilities. It assesses the Enterprise funds ability to pay for its most immediate obligations and focuses on working capital. Current assets include cash and other assets that should be converted to cash or used within a year. Current liabilities include those obligations that are due within a year and will require the use of current assets or establishment of additional current liabilities.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A ratio greater than 1.0 is preferred. If this amount is above 1.0, it implies the County will be able to pay Enterprise Fund expenses as they come due. If this amount is less than 1.0, it implies that the Enterprise Funds have more immediate obligations than assets available to make payments and will need to either borrow or receive excess revenue in the short term.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the Current Ratio was 11.91 and represents a 7.4% increase from 2014. This amount has increased each year for the past several years and, overall, this is a positive measurement for the County's Enterprise Funds. For the comparable counties, the values a few years ago were skewed upward by a large Sanitary Sewer fund in Kitsap County which Thurston County does not have. However, Thurston County is currently slightly below the comparables. That is because of the Solid Waste rate increase at Thurston County a few years ago.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Current Assets	\$ 18,918,621	\$ 20,519,976	\$ 26,167,090	\$ 31,314,247	\$ 36,189,285	\$ 41,674,145
Current Liabilities	\$ 5,588,150	\$ 3,698,986	\$ 3,949,658	\$ 3,899,128	\$ 3,261,889	\$ 3,500,530
Thurston County	3.39	5.55	6.63	8.03	11.09	11.91
Comparable Counties Average	18.29	16.10	16.28	12.41	11.60	14.91

Formula: Current Assets / Current Liabilities

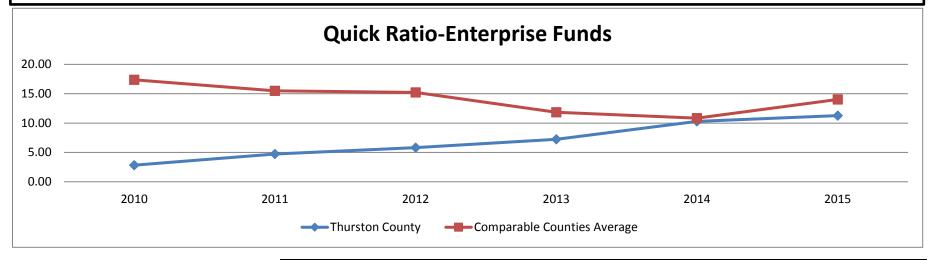
# **Quick Ratio - Enterprise Funds**

#### Are Enterprise Fund expenses able to be paid as they come due with "quick" assets, rather than current assets?

<u>Description</u>: Like the Current Ratio just described, this measure shows how many times the current Enterprise Fund assets cover current Enterprise Fund liabilities and it assesses the ability to pay for its most immediate obligations. However, this is a more conservative approach to measuring liquidity as it uses quick assets, or assets that are normally convertible into cash within a relatively short period, such as Cash and Pooled Investments, Due From Other Funds, and Due From Other Governments. Unlike current assets, quick assets exclude receivables related to Customer Accounts and Special Assessments because of the nature of these receivables, they are usually not converted to cash in a relatively short period of time. As with the Current Ratio, the current liabilities include those obligations that are due within a year and will require the use of current assets or establishment of additional current liabilities.

<u>Benchmark</u>: If this amount is above 1.0, it implies the Enterprise Funds will be able to pay expenses with liquid assets as they come due. If this amount is less than 1.0, it implies that these funds have more immediate obligations than liquid assets available to make payments and will need to either borrow or receive excess revenue in the short term. The Quick Ratio will give a lower value than the Current Ratio.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the Quick Ratio was 11.27 and represents a 9.4% increase from 2014. This amount has been increasing each year over the past several years. This is a positive measurement for the County's Enterprise Funds. For the comparable counties, the values a few years ago were skewed upward by a large Sanitary Sewer fund in Kitsap County which Thurston County does not have. Due to a Solid Waste rate increase at Thurston County a few years ago, the two graphs below are very close to one another.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Cash and Pooled Investments	\$ 12,608,532	\$ 15,422,847	\$ 20,982,389	\$ 26,783,810	\$ 32,175,127	\$ 38,547,141
Due From Other Funds & Governments	\$ 3,208,422	\$ 2,057,943	\$ 1,989,641	\$ 1,388,043	\$ 1,428,372	\$ 913,896
Current Liabilities	\$ 5,588,150	\$ 3,698,986	\$ 3,949,658	\$ 3,899,128	\$ 3,261,889	\$ 3,500,530
Thurston County	2.83	4.73	5.82	7.23	10.30	11.27
Comparable Counties Average	17.37	15.50	15.21	11.84	10.84	14.01

Formula: (Cash + Due From Other Funds + Due From Other Governments) / Current Liabilities

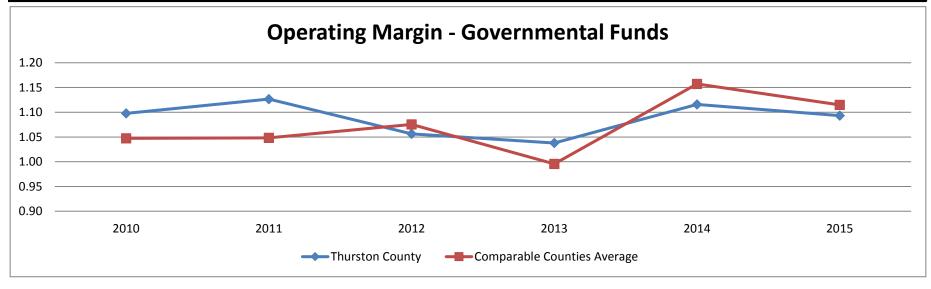
### **Operating Margin - Governmental Funds**

Are the County's governmental funds financially sustainable?

<u>Description</u>: This measure shows the margin between revenues and expenditures for governmental funds. The figures exclude Capital Outlay and Other Financing Sources (Uses) and focuses on whether revenues were sufficient to cover spending on operations and debt service.

<u>Benchmark</u>: If this amount is positive, it implies the county received funding in the current year sufficient to cover spending on its operations and contribute toward capital outlays, transfers to business-type activities, increases in fund balances, and other uses. If this amount is negative, it implies the County may not be living within its means and the county will need to increase revenues or decrease expenditures in order to continue sustained operations.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the governmental funds Operating Margin was 1.09 and represents a decrease of 2.7% over 2014. Going back over the past several years, this ratio has remained flat, which is a sign that the county has reacted appropriately to the economic downturn and subsequent sluggish recovery. For instance, as revenues contracted, the county reacted by cutting costs or keeping costs flat. This is an indication that the fiscal health of these funds is improving slowly, but consistently. The comparable counties saw a sharp increase in 2014 and a slight decrease in 2015 which tracks with Thurston County's graph. The next couple years will either confirm or refute the trend reversal experienced by both graphs.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Revenues	\$ 189,086,966	\$ 181,611,504	\$ 181,154,659	\$ 188,292,419	\$ 203,040,349	\$ 203,208,156
Current Expenditures and Debt Service	\$ 172,255,224	\$ 161,197,034	\$ 171,492,717	\$ 181,428,804	\$ 181,948,240	\$ 185,880,970
Thurston County	1.10	1.13	1.06	1.04	1.12	1.09
Comparable Counties Average	1.05	1.05	1.08	1.00	1.16	1.11

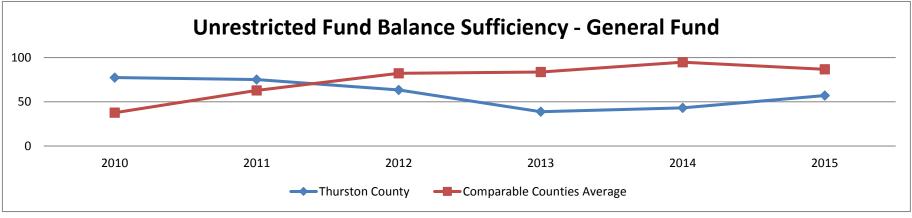
Formula: Revenues / "Current" Expenditures plus Debt Service (Less Capital Outlay)

# **Unrestricted Fund Balance Sufficiency - General Fund**

#### How is the County's General Fund able to financially deal with emergencies, unanticipated needs, and unforeseen costs?

<u>Description</u>: This measure is the number of days that the General Fund could operate on its existing Unrestricted fund balance. This measure compares Unrestricted Fund Balance to the average daily General Fund current expenditures and debt service (excludes capital outlay and other financing uses). Fund balance represents the cumulative results of General Fund operations and is the amount of current assets the County has accumulated over time. It acts like a "savings account" that can be drawn on in times need. Effective in 2011, GASB 54 changed the categories of fund balance to Non-Spendable, Restricted, and Unrestricted (Committed, Assigned, & Unassigned). In a general sense, the Non-Spendable and Restricted amounts are not considered available for spending whereas the Unrestricted amounts are available for spending. Therefore, we only focus on the Unrestricted amount in this ratio for 2011. In years prior, we used the "Unreserved" figure as these are comparable for the General Fund. <u>Benchmark</u>: The higher this figure, the better able the County is to cope with future needs or shortfalls. Amongst local governments, 60 days is generally considered to be healthy.

<u>Results</u>: At the end of 2015, the County had 57 days of General Fund expenditures sitting in its Unrestricted Fund Balance. This represents an increase of 18 days, or 46%, from 2013 (lowest amount recently), it is still well below the high-water mark of 77 days for 2010. Given the 60 day benchmark, this still not a positive measure for the county but it is of less cause for concern compared to 2013 or 2014. The comparable counties measure is still well above Thurston mainly due to the larger cash balance at Kitsap.



		2010		2011		2012		2013	2014	2015
Unrestricted Fund Balance (Committed, Assigned, Unassigned 2011 & beyond. Unreserved prior to 2011)	Ś	15,066,274	Ś	16,119,833	Ś	14,197,193	Ś	9,068,302	\$ 9,865,708	\$ 13,247,655
Current Expenditures and Debt Service	\$	71,042,064	\$	78,307,549	\$	81,795,535	\$	85,340,728	\$ 83,591,835	\$ 84,664,608
Thurston County		77		75		63		39	43	57
Comparable Counties Average		38		63		82		84	95	87

Formula: Unrestricted Fund Balance / ("Current" Expenditures and Debt Service (less Capital Outlay) / 365)

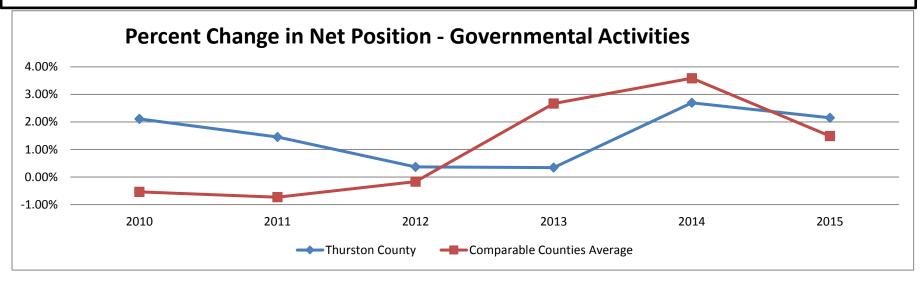
### **Change in Net Position – Governmental Activities**

Is the financial condition of the County's Governmental Activities improving, declining, or remaining steady?

<u>Description</u>: This measure is the percent change in Net Position balance compared to last year for the County's Governmental Activities. This measure includes the effects of changes in long-term assets and liabilities, capital outlay, and other financing sources and uses.

<u>Benchmark</u>: If this amount is positive, it indicates that the County's Governmental Activities financial position has improved. If this amount is negative, it implies the Governmental Activities financial condition has declined due to spending down assets or increasing liabilities. A more in-depth analysis of each of the major line items of the Statement of Activities will help identify the major sources of the changes, if any.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County's Governmental Activities had a 2.15% increase in Net Position and represents a sizeable positive amount for the second year in a row. This is a good sign for the county's Governmental Activities as there was a second consecutive year increase possibly confirming a good trend. The decrease angle of the graph below is a bit deceiving due to GASB 68 and the including of a Pension Liability for the first time. The fact that the percent is positive is the most important statistic here. The comparable counties' line decrease is explained the same way with the Pension Liability.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Change in Net Position	\$ 10,568,683	\$ 7,494,913	\$ 1,902,030	\$ 1,758,792	\$ 14,217,338	\$ 10,595,385
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 369,474,630	\$ 379,700,249	\$ 388,913,237	\$ 396,205,995	\$ 402,742,302	\$ 399,574,658
Restricted Net Position	\$ 123,019,483	\$ 114,171,619	\$ 112,519,421	\$ 70,574,027	\$ 72,910,583	\$ 68,052,131
Unrestricted Net Position	\$ 8,639,298	\$ 22,407,924	\$ 16,589,052	\$ 46,651,152	\$ 51,995,627	\$ 24,506,302
Thurston County	2.11%	1.45%	0.37%	0.34%	2.69%	2.15%
Comparable Counties Average	-0.54%	-0.73%	-0.17%	2.67%	3.59%	1.49%

Formula: (Change in Net Position / Prior Year Sum Total Net Position)

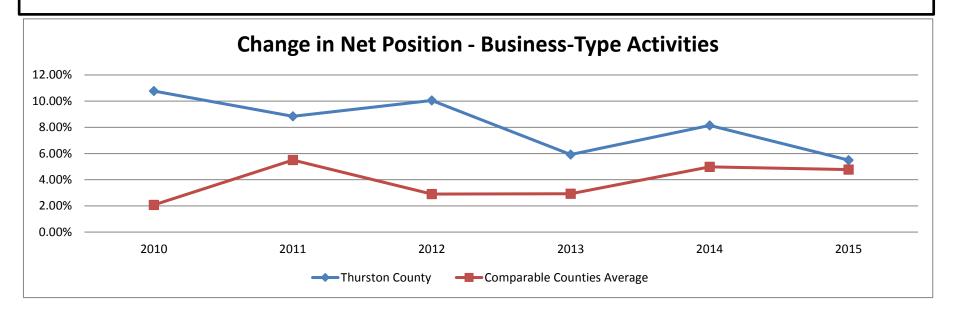
# **Change in Net Position – Business-Type Activities**

Did the County's financial condition of its Business-Type Activities improve, decline, or remain steady?

<u>Description</u>: This measure is the percent change in Net Position balance compared to last year for the County's Business-Type Activities. This measure includes the effects of changes in long-term assets and liabilities, capital outlay, and other financing sources and uses.

<u>Benchmark</u>: If this amount is positive, it indicates that the County's business-type funds financial position has improved. If this amount is negative, it implies the business-type funds financial condition has declined due to spending down assets or increasing liabilities. A more in-depth analysis of each of the major line items of the Statement of Activities will help identify the major sources of the changes, if any.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County's Business-Type Activities had an increase of Change in Net Position of 5.5% compared to 2014. This marks the eighth straight year this percentage has been positive and indicates good financial health with these Enterprise funds. Much like the Governmental Activities above, the reason for the downward sloping line is the Pension Liability added this year. The same can be said for the comparable counties as the percent is positive, which should be the main focus with this ratio.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Change in Net Position	\$ 4,807,126	\$ 4,315,479	\$ 5,782,184	\$ 3,440,908	\$ 5,153,036	\$ 3,319,512
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 29,716,183	\$ 30,267,496	\$ 34,019,243	\$ 30,617,626	\$ 29,842,737	\$ 28,885,135
Restricted Net Position	\$ 3,993,892	\$ 5,198,356	\$ 5,596,734	\$ 3,970,011	\$ 2,458,875	\$ 2,030,134
Unrestricted Net Position	\$ 10,919,784	\$ 13,309,861	\$ 17,874,279	\$ 23,558,098	\$ 30,997,159	\$ 29,482,869
Thurston County	10.77%	8.85%	10.06%	5.92%	8.14%	5.50%
Comparable Counties Average	2.08%	5.50%	2.91%	2.92%	4.98%	4.78%

Formula: (Change in Net Position / Prior Year Sum Total Net Assets)

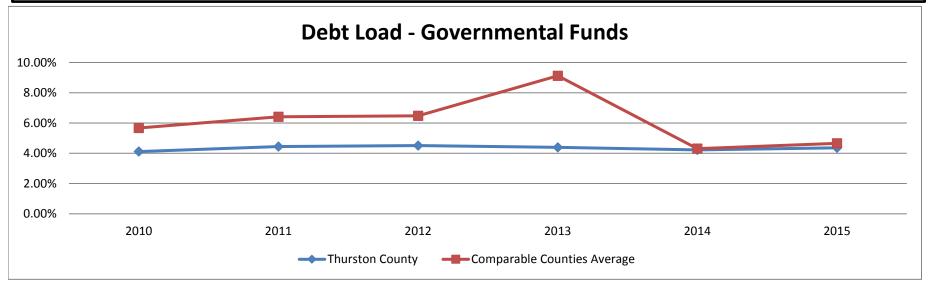
#### **Debt Load - Governmental Funds**

#### How much of the County's Governmental Fund revenues are going toward debt service payments?

<u>Description</u>: This ratio measures the County's ability to service its governmental fund debt out of its available governmental fund revenues. It shows the percent of the County's total governmental fund revenues that are being used for debt service payments (principal and interest).

<u>Benchmark</u>: A ratio of at or under 10% is desirable and industry practice considers a 12% or higher debt load to be high. Since debt service, in essence, represents money that is already spent, the lower the ratio the greater the ability of the County to service its debt. The higher the ratio, the less flexibility the County has for future spending needs or opportunities. As with many ratios, other factors need to be considered so as to get the whole picture, including length of maturities, nature of debt, and balloon or other back-ended payments.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County had a Debt Service Load of 4.36%. As witnessed by the blue line in the chart below, this measure has stayed very constant the past few years and is still well below the threshold of 12% set by industry practice. The county's debt load indicates that its ability to meet its Governmental fund debt service requirements is not in jeopardy at this time. This measure also shows that the county carries slightly less debt, and is not as highly levered, as the other comparable counties. However, the percentages are much closer than in years past. For the comparable counties, the reason 2013 is much higher is Kitsap County did a bond refunding that increased the bond principal payments way above normal for just that one year.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Principal Payments	\$ 3,381,295	\$ 4,042,259	\$ 4,365,372	\$ 4,613,266	\$ 5,086,459	\$ 5,519,994
Interest Payments	\$ 4,396,504	\$ 4,023,798	\$ 3,806,411	\$ 3,656,379	\$ 3,486,921	\$ 3,341,693
Governmental Fund Revenues	\$ 189,086,966	\$ 181,611,504	\$ 181,154,659	\$ 188,292,419	\$ 203,040,349	\$ 203,208,156
Thurston County	4.11%	4.44%	4.51%	4.39%	4.22%	4.36%
Comparable Counties Average	5.67%	6.41%	6.48%	9.12%	4.31%	4.66%

Formula: (Principal & Interest payments / Revenues (excludes Transfers))

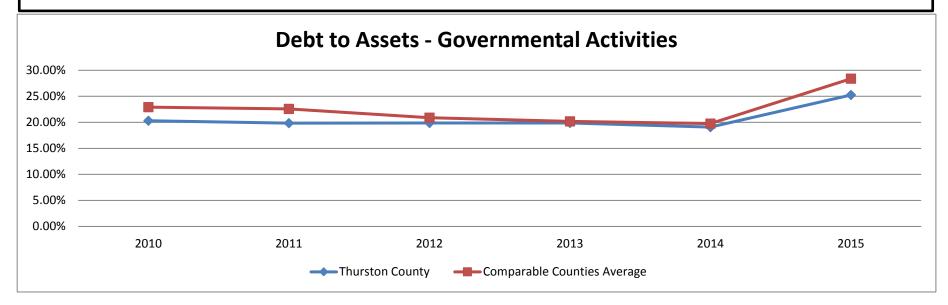
#### **Debt to Assets - Governmental Activities**

#### To what degree are the County's Governmental Activities assets financed by its debt?

<u>Description</u>: This measure shows the County's governmental-activities financial risk by determining how much of the County's assets have been financed by debt. This measure takes the Governmental Activities Total Liabilities and divides it by the Governmental Activities Total Assets. It will show the number of times total liabilities are covered by total assets.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A ratio of below 40% is desirable. In general, a low ratio here indicates that the majority of the County's assets are financed by fund balance. The higher the ratio, the greater risk will be associated with the County's operations as it would be considered to be "highly leveraged". Highly levered counties lose some flexibility in making operating decisions and could be in danger if creditors start to demand repayment of debt sooner than scheduled.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County had a Debt to Assets ratio of 25.25% This indicates that the County is not highly leveraged (below 40% desired) and does still have a good deal of flexibility in spending on operations going forward. Because of GASB 68, which added a Pension Liability of \$43.6 million to the county's Statement of Net Position beginning in 2015, comparing the percent to prior years is not advisable. The percent for 2015 is still well below warning levels. Additionally, backing out the \$43.6 million pension liability brings the ratio down to 18.7 percent. The county did not issue any new debt in 2015. For comparable counties, They, like the Thurston County, have not sold any new debt. Kitsap County refunded debt in 2013, but



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Governmental Activities Total Liabilities	\$ 127,671,734	\$ 127,781,645	\$ 128,565,580	\$ 127,279,009	\$ 124,345,799	\$ 166,970,473
Governmental Activities Total Assets	\$ 628,805,145	\$ 644,061,437	\$ 646,587,290	\$ 640,065,548	\$ 651,410,106	\$ 661,165,728
Thurston County	20.30%	19.84%	19.88%	19.89%	19.09%	25.25%
Comparable Counties Average	22.91%	22.59%	20.89%	20.18%	19.76%	28.38%

Formula: (Total Liabilities / Total Assets)

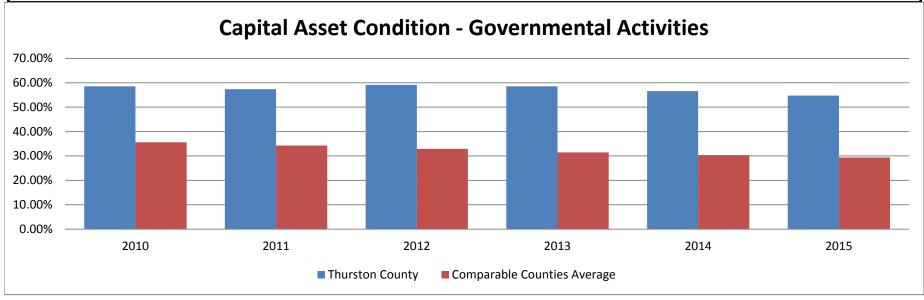
# **Capital Asset Condition - Governmental Activities**

What is the remaining life left in the County's Governmental Activities Capital Assets?

<u>Description</u>: This measure shows the remaining life of the County's governmental capital assets. On the government-wide statements, capital outlays are capitalized as assets and depreciated over their expected useful life. While replacement costs will likely exceed the original cost of capital assets, this ratio will show how much useful life remains before assets need to be replaced.

<u>Benchmark</u>: When the average useful life is less than 25%, it generally indicates major capital asset replacements will be needed in the near term. Other important factors to consider along with the capital asset condition are: a) whether certain major assets are almost fully depreciated; and b) an identification of anticipated infrastructure improvements needed to accommodate growth, which should be reflected in the County's capital facilities plan.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the county had an average Remaining Useful Life of 54.77%. This indicates that the remaining live of the county's governmental assets is strong and it does not appear that the county will be incurring large sums of replacement costs for its existing capital assets in the near future. The trend has remained constant the past few years. This is a positive measure for the county. The county's capital assets appear to be newer, than those of the comparable counties. The difference between Thurston County and the comparables each year has been roughly the same or getting larger since 2008, which makes sense given the more recent debt the county has issued to fund construction of capital assets.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Capital Assets, Depreciable, Net	\$ 173,425,543	\$ 171,644,614	\$ 194,183,006	\$ 201,728,649	\$ 195,809,021	\$ 187,676,844
Capital Assets, Original Cost	\$ 296,132,165	\$ 299,037,190	\$ 328,215,244	\$ 344,597,331	\$ 346,039,330	\$ 342,694,318
Thurston County	58.56%	57.40%	59.16%	58.54%	56.59%	54.77%
Comparable Counties Average	35.61%	34.31%	32.89%	31.48%	30.33%	29.34%

Formula: (Capital Assets, Depreciable Net / Capital Assets, Original Cost, From Note VI)

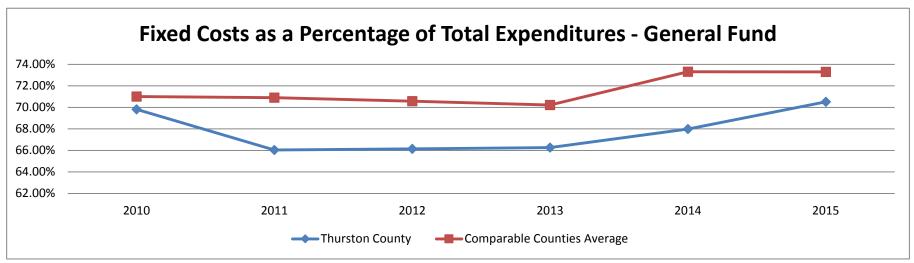
# Fixed Costs as a Percentage of Total Expenditures - General Fund

How much of the County's General Fund total costs are fixed?

<u>Description</u>: This measure shows the ratio of salaries, benefits, and debt service costs to total expenditures in the General Fund. These "fixed" costs are more difficult to control in times of fiscal stress. A high level of fixed costs also lessens the amount of money available for discretionary or unexpected expenses and reduces the flexibility to respond to economic changes. The generally fixed nature of personnel costs and debt service makes it more difficult to adjust service levels if resources decline.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A review of the trend of this ratio over time is the most important analysis here as opposed to comparing it to a benchmark as each County is slightly different in its operations and organizational goals and priorities. If the ratio is increasing, it could indicate that the County is losing flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the General Fund's Fixed Costs as a Percentage of Total Expenditures was 70.5%. This is a 3.7% increase over 2014. The trend over the past few years indicates this percentage has been increasing slightly. Although not at an alarming level just yet, this trend is a cause for concern and should be monitored. The near mirroring of the two comparable lines in the graph in the past four years makes sense given that most counties operate on nearly the same business model with salaries and benefits being the dominate type of cost. As conditions in the general economy affects one county, it should affect other counties to a similar, but not absolute, degree.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 49,380,826	\$ 51,771,827	\$ 54,130,808	\$ 56,990,890	\$ 56,884,067	\$ 59,680,178
Debt Service Costs (Princ and Interest)	\$ 310,839	\$ 131,828	\$ 132,469	\$ 125,635	\$ 115,222	\$ 110,135
Total Expenditures	\$ 71,175,571	\$ 78,603,882	\$ 82,045,944	\$ 86,197,894	\$ 83,830,636	\$ 84,792,425
Thurston County	69.82%	66.03%	66.14%	66.26%	67.99%	70.51%
Comparable Counties Average	71.01%	70.90%	70.57%	70.21%	73.31%	73.30%

Formula: (Salaries & Benefits + Debt Service Costs) / Total Expenditures

Note: Data Source for Salaries & Benefits is a MUNIS query: fund 0010, obj 510000:529999

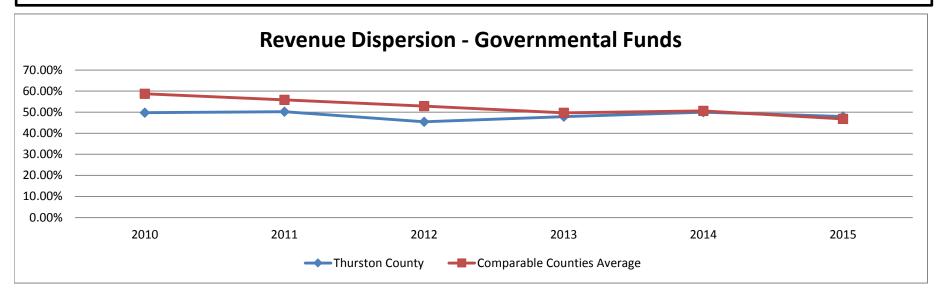
# **Revenue Dispersion - Governmental Funds**

How much of the County's Governmental Fund revenue is from sources beyond its control?

<u>Description</u>: This measure shows the ratio of non-tax revenue to total revenue for all of the County's Governmental Funds. It is a measure of the exposure to potential financial difficulties resulting from reliance on revenue sources beyond the direct control of the County. Because the County does not directly control most of these revenue sources, there is risk that they may not be available to fund operations. This is particularly true of intergovernmental revenues such as grants or entitlements that require no action by the County. Changes in State or Federal policy could also could have an impact on the revenue streams, since budgetary stress at these levels could result in aid reductions.

<u>Benchmark</u>: The goal of this measure is to identify trends in the data compared to past years. In general, the higher the percentage of operations funded by non-tax revenues, the greater the revenue risk to the County.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County's non-tax revenues as a percentage of total revenues was 48% and represents a decrease of 4.0% from 2014. Given that property tax is, to a large degree, in the control of the county (through state law), and is the primary revenue source for the county, the flat trend line over the past few years is no surprise. Thurston County is in slightly better position than the comparable counties here, but the two lines are roughly the same, not unexpected given the business model of counties.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Non-Tax Revenues	\$ 94,107,464	\$ 91,253,461	\$ 82,303,884	\$ 90,094,909	\$ 101,574,630	\$ 97,473,719
Total Revenues	\$ 189,086,966	\$ 181,611,504	\$ 181,154,659	\$ 188,292,419	\$ 203,040,349	\$ 203,208,156
Thurston County	49.77%	50.25%	45.43%	47.85%	50.03%	47.97%
Comparable Counties Average	58.72%	55.85%	52.86%	49.71%	50.65%	46.82%

Formula: Non-tax Revenues / Total Revenues

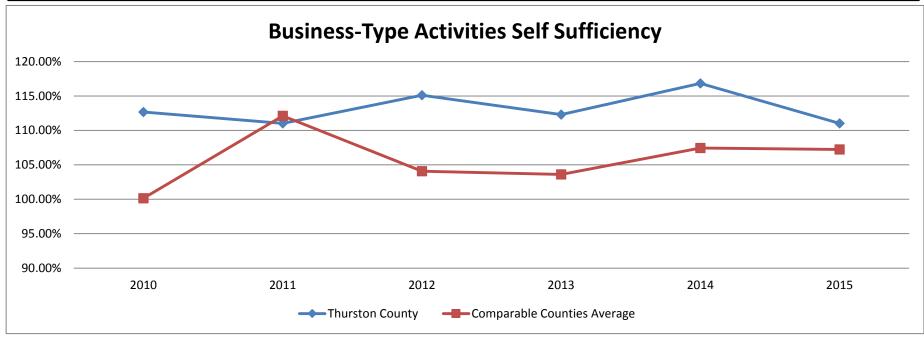
# **Business-Type Activities Self Sufficiency**

How much of the County's Business-Type Activities are funded with current-year Charges for Services?

<u>Description</u>: This measure shows the percent of Business-Type Activity expenses that were covered by <u>Charges for Service</u> revenues rather than prior year resources or subsidies from other funds.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A measure of 100% or greater indicates that the Business-Type Activities were successful in recovering the full costs of service through Charges for Service revenues. A measure of less than 100% indicates that the business-type activities had to use prior year resources (net assets), borrowings, or use transfers from other funds to help subsidize operations.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County's Business-Type Activities ratio of Charges for Services to total expenditures was 111.02%. This indicates the County's Business Type Activity funds were able to fund operations with their Charges for Services revenues. The trend for the county over the past few years is very flat and well above the 100% benchmark mentioned above. This is a positive indicator for county's Enterprise funds. Both Thurston County and the comparable have seen mostly increases in this measure since 2009, tracking closely to one another.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Charges for Services	\$ 28,110,764	\$ 26,996,503	\$ 29,612,038	\$ 29,671,170	\$ 31,823,551	\$ 32,350,635
Total Expenses (excludes Indirect)	\$ 24,946,897	\$ 24,317,882	\$ 25,722,924	\$ 26,421,870	\$ 27,239,933	\$ 29,139,333
Thurston County	112.68%	111.02%	115.12%	112.30%	116.83%	111.02%
Comparable Counties Average	100.15%	112.11%	104.08%	103.60%	107.44%	107.22%

Formula: Charges for Services / Total Expenses (excludes indirect expenses) From Statement of Activities

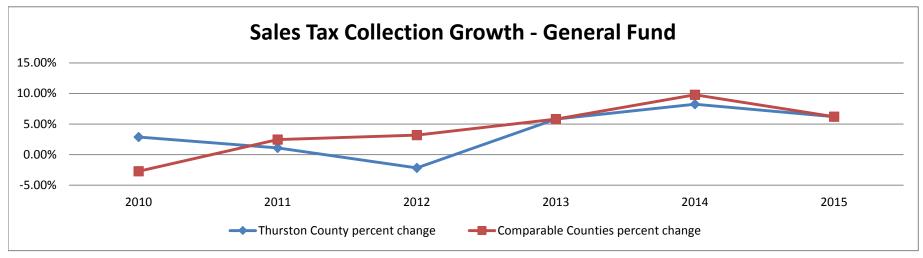
#### Sales Tax Collection Growth - General Fund

How much did the County's collection of sales tax grow compared to prior year?

<u>Description</u>: This is a measure of the state of the local economy by comparing the change in current year collections of sales and use taxes to the amount collected in prior year. While this measure is not directly related to the fiscal decisions of the County managers, it is an important measure for county decision makers to be cognizant of for budget and other planning purposes. This is collected only in the County's General Fund.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A positive percentage indicates that the county collected more than it did in the prior year and a negative percentage indicates that the county collected less than prior year. Further, the larger the positive percentage change compared to prior years indicates a higher level of collection increase. A smaller percentage increase indicates a smaller level increase. Strength of the local economy is the main variable driving this measure, but there are other things that managers need to consider when assessing the trend of this ratio such as: a) a change in sales tax rate, b) a new type of tax was added, such as internet sales, c) a change in the way sales tax is calculated (destination based), etc.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the Sales Tax Collection Growth percentage was a positive 6.2% and has increased each year since 2013. Three positive increases in a row is a very good indicator of the health of the local economy. Even though this measure is largely out of the county's control, it should be closely monitored as sales tax is a large source of revenue for the county. Even though the trend of the line is down, it does not necessarily mean something negative. The main focus with this ratio is a positive percentage. A down trending line several years in a row should be analyzed. Collections of comparable counties have been increasing each year since 2011 at a very constant rate.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Sales and Use Tax Revenues	\$ 11,015,800	\$ 11,136,953	\$ 10,894,785	\$ 11,527,383	\$ 12,475,708	\$ 13,249,535
Thurston County percent change	2.88%	1.10%	-2.17%	5.81%	8.23%	6.20%
Comparable Counties percent change	-2.73%	2.44%	3.17%	5.81%	9.78%	6.20%

Formula: (Sales and Use Tax Current Year - Sales and Use Tax Prior Year) / Sales and Use Tax Prior year, MUNIS query on 0010, 313110

Only the General Fund collects Sales and Use Tax. The 2009 amt: \$ 10,707,672

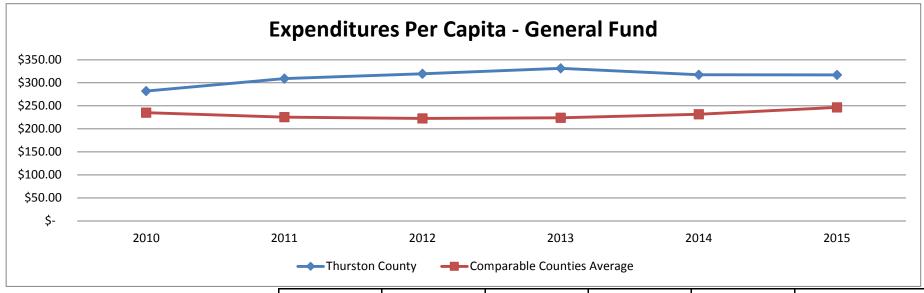
### **Expenditures Per Capita - General Fund**

How much have the County's Governmental Activities Expenditures changed compared to changes in population?

<u>Description</u>: This measure reflects the changes in General Fund Expenditures relative to changes in population. Increasing per capita Expenditures can indicate that the cost of providing services is outstripping the population's ability to pay, especially if spending is increasing faster than the residents' collective personal income. In addition, if an increase in spending is greater than can be accounted for by inflation or the addition of new services, it may indicate declining productivity.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A level or decreasing trend line is desirable as it indicates the County's General Fund expenditures are remaining constant or reducing compared to population growth. An increasing trend line indicates could be cause for concern and should be examined closely. An effective analysis of this measure is also a comparison to other Counties of similar demographics.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County's General Fund expenditures per capita were \$317.09. This is a decrease of 0.14% over 2014. This indicates that the County's General Fund spent, on average, about \$317 per person in 2015. Prior to 2014, the trend had been increasing steadily and was a cause of concern as the population growth rate appeared to be about half that of the expenditure growth rate. The 2014 reduction was mainly due to the completion of the county's ARC in 2013. Even though the rate compared to the comparable counties is higher, this ratio needs to be considered in conjunction with the Revenues Per Capital below. Intergovernmental revenue and expenditures play a role in Thurston County's amounts being higher than the comparables.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total Expenditures	\$ 71,175,571	\$ 78,603,882	\$ 82,045,944	\$ 86,197,894	\$ 83,830,636	\$ 84,792,425
County Population	252,264	254,095	256,795	260,095	264,000	267,410
Thurston County	\$ 282.15	\$ 309.35	\$ 319.50	\$ 331.41	\$ 317.54	\$ 317.09
Comparable Counties Average	\$ 235.20	\$ 225.44	\$ 222.73	\$ 224.20	\$ 231.59	\$ 246.79

Formula: Total Expenditures / County Population, from Statistical section "Demographic and Economic Information", Schedule 13

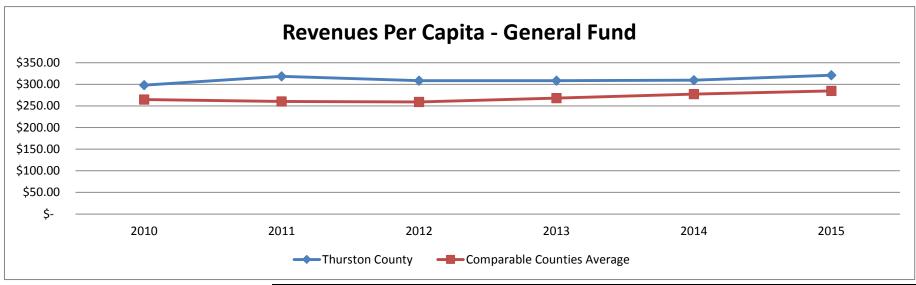
### **Revenues Per Capita - General Fund**

How much have the County's Governmental Activities revenues changed compared to changes in population?

<u>Description</u>: This measure reflects the changes in General Fund Revenues relative to changes in population. As population increases, it may be expected that revenues and the need for services would increase proportionately and the level of per capita revenues would increase sufficiently to keep up with inflation. If per capita revenues are decreasing, the County would be unable to maintain existing service levels unless it was to find new revenue sources or financial savings. The revenues here are operating revenues, which exclude transfers-in.

<u>Benchmark</u>: A level or increasing trend line is desirable as it indicates the County's General Fund revenues are remaining constant or increasing compared to population growth. A decreasing trend line indicates a possible cause for concern and should be examined closely. An effective analysis of this measure is also a comparison to other Counties of similar demographics.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the county's revenues per capita were \$320.93 and represents a sizable increase compared to the past few years. This indicates that the County's General Fund collected, on average, \$321 per person in 2015. Monitoring of this measure should also take into consideration the Expenditures per capita measure above as changes in these are often related, such as an increase in grant awards. In comparing the results of this measure with the results of the Expenditures per Capita measure, it makes the discrepancy in Thurston County and the comparable counties more in line and is less of a concern than just looking at the Expenditure per Capita measure alone. The line for the comparable counties has been very constant since 2009, much like their expenditure per capita line.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total Revenues	\$ 75,195,046	\$ 80,951,867	\$ 79,159,254	\$ 80,195,292	\$ 81,672,857	\$ 85,820,629
County Population	252,264	254,095	256,795	260,095	264,000	267,410
Thurston County	\$ 298.08	\$ 318.59	\$ 308.26	\$ 308.33	\$ 309.37	\$ 320.93
Comparable Counties Average	\$ 264.58	\$ 260.35	\$ 259.10	\$ 268.02	\$ 277.22	\$ 284.73

Formula: Total Revenues / County Population

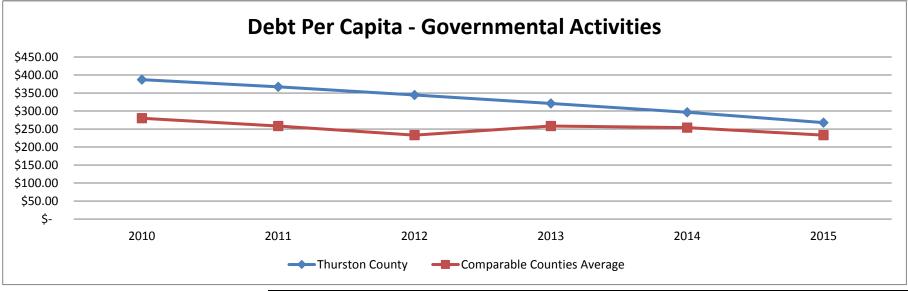
# **Debt Per Capita - Governmental Activities**

How much has the County's Governmental Activities debt changed compared to changes in population?

<u>Description</u>: This measure reflects the County's total Governmental bonded debt attributable to each resident. It shows how the growth in debt is changing relative to changes in population. As population increases, it would be expected that capital needs and associated long-term debt would also increase. It also measures the County's ability to repay its debts if they were all due today. This measure helps the County's managers, potential investors, and credit rating agencies get a feel for whether the County is over or under-leveraged. This measure does not adjust for inflation nor reflect the ability of each County taxpayer to repay the debt.

<u>Benchmark</u>: Generally, per capital debt ratios of around \$300-\$500 are considered acceptable. Also, analysis of the County's trend in recent years and a comparison to other Counties of similar demographics should be performed annually.

<u>Results</u>: In 2015, the County's debt per capita was \$267.83 and represents a decrease of about 9.6% from 2014 and a decrease of 30.8% from 2010. This is well within the acceptable benchmark range. The trend has been steadily decreasing since 2010 and is a result of the county paying down its existing debt and not issuing new debt. If the County decides to do any more borrowing, it should take this measure, along with other ones, into consideration. Overall, this is a positive measure for the County. The line for the comparable counties decreased as well due to no debt being issued.



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total Governmental Debt	\$ 97,660,002	\$ 93,260,000	\$ 88,520,000	\$ 83,515,000	\$ 78,250,000	\$ 71,621,430
County Population	252,264	254,095	256,795	260,095	264,000	267,410
Thurston County	\$ 387.13	\$ 367.03	\$ 344.71	\$ 321.09	\$ 296.40	\$ 267.83
Comparable Counties Average	\$ 279.92	\$ 258.15	\$ 233.16	\$ 258.52	\$ 253.89	\$ 233.07

Formula: Total GO Debt / County Population. Total General Obligation Bonds located in Note VIII "Schedule of Changes", Govt Activities, Ending Balance